



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Post Employment Medical Committee Meeting Minutes 03/03/2005

Post Employment Medical Benefits Committee
Organizational Meeting Memorandum
March 3, 2005

Members in Attendance:

John Bilafer
Kathleen Dias
Nancy Galkowski – came in late
Judie Phelps
Ruth Lewis
Steve O’Riordan
Kenneth Hughes

* Denotes those not in attendance

John Bilafer called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm. The meeting started with a discussion of the Town’s unfunded liability for post employment medical benefits and what amount the Town would have to appropriate each year to fund the unfunded liability. Ken Hughes asked if the additional two million includes the retirees. John said that he would check as he was not sure.

John then outlined six potential funding sources for the liability. They are:

1. The difference between five hundred thousand dollars and the non-contributory budget – the finance committee has already committed to this appropriation.
2. The federal government passed legislation to refund money back to municipalities for medicare retiree’s prescriptions as long as the Town’s plan is equal or better than medicare.
3. Extend retirement funding schedule and the difference in appropriation would go towards funding the health insurance liability.
4. Increase employee and retiree percentage share of health insurance premium and/or an additional amount deducted from active employees to be put aside for guaranteed health insurance coverage when they retire.
5. Additional appropriation
6. Any unspent health insurance appropriation transferred to account for funding retiree health insurance.

There was considerable discussion about the funding sources and it was decided to meet in a few weeks to decide what the committee will report to the Annual Town Meeting.

Ken Hughes named some communities that are taking out additional health insurance money for a commitment that they would be

covered when they retire. John and Nancy were going to call these communities and report back to the committee. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20.